

**OPINION 2052 (Case 3183)*****Pagurus clypeatus* Fabricius, 1787 (currently *Coenobita clypeatus*; Crustacea, Decapoda): usage conserved by designation of a neotype**

**Abstract.** The Commission has ruled that the accustomed usage of the name of the common West Indian land hermit crab *Coenobita clypeatus* (Fabricius, 1787), the type species of *Coenobita* Latreille, 1829, is conserved by the replacement of the two existing East Indies syntypes of *Pagurus clypeatus* Fabricius, 1787 with a West Indies neotype. The names *C. rugosus* and *C. violascens* are also conserved.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Crustacea; Decapoda; COENOBITIDAE; *Coenobita*; *Coenobita clypeatus*; *C. rugosus*; *C. violascens*; hermit crabs; West Indies.

**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power all previous type fixations for the nominal species *Pagurus clypeatus* Fabricius, 1767 are hereby set aside and the male specimen USNM 126773 is designated as the neotype.
- (2) An endorsement is hereby made to an existing entry (March 1990) on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology recording that *Pagurus clypeatus* Fabricius, 1787 (specific name of the type species of *Coenobita* Latreille, 1829) is defined by the neotype designated in (1) above.
- (3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *rugosus* Milne Edwards, 1837, as published in the binomen *Cenobita rugosus*;
  - (b) *violascens* Heller, 1862, as published in the binomen *Coenobita violascens*.

**History of Case 3183**

An application to replace two existing syntypes of the common west Indian land hermit crab *Coenobita clypeatus* (Fabricius, 1787) by a neotype was received from Patsy A. McLaughlin (*Shannon Point Marine Center, Western Washington University, Anacortes, WA, U.S.A.*) and Lipke B. Holthuis (*Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum, Naturalis, Leiden, The Netherlands*) on 5 November 2000. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 59: 17–23 (March 2002). The title, abstract and keywords of the case were published on the Commission's website. No comments on this case were received.

**Decision of the Commission**

On 1 March 2003 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 59: 20. At the close of the voting period on 1 June 2003 the votes were as follows: 24 Commissioners voted FOR the proposals, no Commissioners voted AGAINST, no vote was received from Böhme.

**Original references**

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

- rigosus*, *Cenobita*, Milne Edwards, 1837, *Histoire naturelle des crustacés*, vol. 2, p. 241.  
*violascens*, *Coenobita*, Heller, 1862, *Verhandlungen der Zoologisch-Botanischen Gesellschaft in Wien*, 12: 524.